

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF KITESPORTS ORGANISATIONS



For reference:

IFKO – International Federation of Kitesports Organisations

WS – World Sailing

FFVL – Fédération Française Vol Libre

AGM – General Assembly Meeting

Letter addressed to:

Mr Andy Hunt, Chief Executive Officer of World Sailing

Follow up on letter dated 15th of March 2016

Sent by email to:

andy.hunt@isaf.com with in cc. Mr Olivier Mouragues olivier.mouragues@capgemini.com, Dr François Collin

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Cascais, March 18th, 2016

Ref.No.2016.03.18ad/8

By e-mail only

Dear Mr Hunt,

This message is to follow up on your letter dated 15th of March where reference is made to an item of my letter to your attention sent last February the 10th.

I understand that prior to get in further discussions about the overall context I described in my letter last month, you want to draw my attention on this specific event that IFKO organizes.

To answer you this letter about considering IFKO Kitesports World championships as “Prohibited Events” to World Sailing, I kindly ask you to confirm the information you received since ever from your stakeholder company Kitesports Ltd, so called « International kiteboarding association ».

Understanding World Sailing is used to consider the Sport Sailing as a business by being a private company, we inform that IFKO is a non-for-profit institution with democratic structure and decisions. Kitesports are not legally ruled (or never were) by “Ika” or this name is to be considered by WS as representative of the Sport. It never was a governing body, we deny its legitimacy and have strong concerns on its legal basis and transparent management.

Having the status of an International Federation, does not mean WS can take over different Sports without its community large debate, voting and before passing a most important period of time (never less than 20/25 years) to have a fair chance to achieve itself autonomy and recognition. Most National Associations had only 10 years of existence when ISAF 2012 AGM registered “Kiteboarding” for its only competition format “Formula Kite”.

As you most certainly know, only AGM voting is to be legally considered in the world of Sports. I recognize this to be very well perceptible in the WS 2016 Official Competition Calendar by not having “Ika” events registered. This shows clearly that are the events you refer in your letter as being “Ika events” the ones to be consider as Prohibited Events by your Federation (and IFKO) because it is one of your Classes only to Formula Kite (and not any other competition format).

After your information about World Sailing Rules having mentions to Kitesports rules, I also respectfully and formally request you to remove all contents or mentions to our 17 registered disciplines and not registered by your AGMs (Freestyle, Kitewave, KiteFoil, Speedkite, etc.). The WS references to oversee our Sports are to be considered since now, financially prejudicial and damaging to Kitesports organization.

In addition, only for your information:

- IFKO does not recognize “Ika “events, “Ika” trick lists nor we have yet the competition officials’ team selected. In our Sport it is done by sortation in the days prior to the event and we suggest that if WS recognizes any of its officials in our competitions to solve that problem internally and not with our Federation.
- FFVL is a National Federation and our Full Member and it is IFKO that organizes the event you referred.
- About numbers of rules you refer 7.5; 7.5.7; 7.5.8 were written in 2003 (“Ika” did not exist); 11.2 is from International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (IRPCS also called Collision Regulations) and that trick lists existed in Professional Kiteboard Riders Association Tour.

I must refer IFKO’s respect for World Sailing tradition and image with its long time existence and own identity with very charismatic community. To have these points mention in your letter makes me sincerely and respectfully advise you not to trust non reliable information and have a consultation of your internal administrative and legal team.

As I wrote you in my letter last month, we respect World Sailing experience and look forward to support. I hope to get your holistic feedback following the official constitution of IFKO and all the views I shared with you in my last message.

Being at your disposal for any further information

Yours sincerely,



Diogo Paes Fernandes
President, Executive Council, IFKO

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